

Bolivia – La Paz

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Bolivia – La Paz GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Bolivia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Bolivia – La Paz GYTS was a school-based survey of students in primary 8, secondary 1 and 2, conducted in 2000.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of La Paz. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 95.0%, the student response rate was 83.7%, and the overall response rate was 79.6%. A total of 4639 students participated in the Bolivia – La Paz GYTS.

Prevalence

55.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 63.5%, Female = 47.5%)
 31.3% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 36.8%, Female = 25.9%)
 27.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 32.2%, Female = 22.4%)
 11.5% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 14.1%, Female = 8.9%)
 28.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

18.2% think boys and 17.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
 14.6% think boys and 12.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

9.1% usually smoke at home
 60.6% buy cigarettes in a store
 81.5% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

40.3% live in homes where others smoke
 61.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 79.4% think smoking should be banned from public places
 59.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 42.2% have one or more parents who smoke
 18.3% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

64.7% want to stop smoking
 66.9% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 69.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

75.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 88.2% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 82.0% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 19.3% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 13.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

51.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 28.1% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 42.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 31% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 27% currently smoke cigarettes; 12% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; 4 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- 6 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- About 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 6 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- Over 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.